(b) The share of Union Excise duties, Income Tax and Estate Duty paid to West Bengal in 1987-88 as per revised estimates is as under:

(Rs. in Crores)

Income-tax	Basic Excise Duty	Additional Excise Duties in lieu of Sales Tax	Estate Duty
201.11	423.90	103.40	0.25

Loss Suffered by NTC

*200. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the net loss suffered so far by the National Textile Corporation:

(b) what steps have been taken to minimise the losses, raise the productivity and improve maintenance of the plants and with what results; and

(c) what are the names of the twelve heavy loss incurring textile mills of the Corporation for the closure of which a proposal was mooted some four years ago and what is the decision taken in this regard including the fate of the workers of the mills so involved?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The cumulative net loss incurred by mills under NTC is about Rs. 1331 crores as on 31st March, 1988.

(b) Steps to improve the performance of textile mills under NTC are reviewed on a continuing basis. The measures recently taken to minimise the losses, and to raise the productivity include mill-specific action plans, selective modernisation with the help of institutional finance, product upgradation and diversification phasing out of the uneconomic activities, rationalisation of excess labour on the basis of voluntary resignations. Subject to availability of funds, maintenance is carried out in the NTC mills as per the prescribed Maintenance Schedule. However, the losses are still increasing.

(c) In terms of the Textile Policy Statement, 1985, unviable mills which cannot be made viable within a reasonable time-frame, have to be closed down. Various proposals for closure of unviable mills have been considered in the recent past. However, there is no decision to close down any nationalised mill under NTC.

Decline in Export of Iron Ore by M.M.T.C.

@1602. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mines in eastern region in Bihar and Orissa are facing crisis due to gradual decline of offtake of Iron Ore for export by MMTC;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps government propose to take to increase offtake of Iron Ore?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) Lower level of shipments of iron ore than the target during 1987-88 by MMTC due to reduced contracting and lifting by the overseas buyers, particularly from Paradip port led to a record level of stocks of iron ore at the end of March, 1988

@Previously Unstarred Question 327, transferred from the 29th July, 1988.

which were sufficient to take care of export commitments for the year 1988-89. This resulted in reduced procurement of iron ore by MMTC for export during 1988-89.

(c) Market diversification, offer of incentive process for shipments from Paradip port, improvement in infrastructure at ports etc. are some of the steps taken/proposed to be taken to increase off take of iron ore.

बंजर भूमि का विकास

@1603. **श्री सत्य पाल मलिक :** क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में बंजर भूमि के इस्तेमाल को बढ़ाने के कार्यक्रमों में कितनी प्रगति हुई है और क्या गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र के लोगों ने बंजर भूमि के विकास के लिए पहल करने की पेशकश की है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में सरकार की नीति क्या है ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री (श्री जेड० आर० अन्सारी) : (क) परती भूमि विकास की नीति का उद्देश्य वनीकरण एवं वृक्षारोपण द्वारा देश की परती भूमि को उत्पादन योग्य बनाना है । विगत तीन वर्षों के लक्ष्य एवं उपलब्धियां निम्नप्रकार हैं :—

वर्ष	लक्ष्य (क्षेत्र मिलियन हैक्टेयर में)	उपलब्धि
1985-86	1.45	1.51
1986-87	1.71	1.76
1987-88	1.79	1.77

वर्ष 1988-89 के लिए 2 मिलियन हैक्टेयर का लक्ष्य है ।

@ पूर्वत: अतारांकित प्रश्न 442, 29 जुलाई, 1988 से स्थानान्तरित ।

उपरिलिखित उपलब्धियों के अन्तर्गत किसानों एवं स्वैच्छिक एजेंसियों, जिन्होंने परती भूमि विकास के लिए पहल की है, द्वारा किए गए प्रयास शामिल हैं ।

वनों पर आधारित कुछ उद्योगों ने अपनी कच्चे माल की जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए निजी प्रयोग हेतु वृक्ष उगाने के लिए परती भूमि का विकास करने की पेशकश की है ।

(ख) वर्तमान नीति स्वैच्छिक एजेंसियों के माध्यम से फार्म वानिकी और परती भूमि विकास को निम्नप्रकार से प्रोत्साहित करती है :—

(i) पौधों का मुफ्त/इमदादी दर पर वितरण ।

(ii) विकेन्द्रित जन-पौधशालाओं को प्रोन्नत करना ।

(iii) परती भूमि विकास/वनीकरण प्रायोजनाओं और जागरूकता एवं प्रशिक्षण संबंधी कार्यकलापों को आरम्भ करने के लिए स्वैच्छिक एजेंसियों को अनुदान देना ।

(iv) वृक्ष उत्पादक सहकारिताओं को बढ़ावा देना ।

(v) फार्म के अन्दर सिल्वी चारागाह विकास के लिए छोटे एवं सीमान्त किसानों को सहायता प्रदान करना ।

(vi) निकृष्ट सार्वजनिक भूमि पर भूमिहीन, लघु एवं सीमान्त किसानों के लिए वृक्ष पट्टा परियोजना ।

उद्योगों को अपने प्रयोग हेतु वृक्ष उगाने के लिए वन भूमि उपलब्ध कराना सरकार की नीति नहीं है ।